

# CITIZEN NEWS



Yorktown, Virginia

Vol. 23, No. 2

Summer 2002

# York County Launches First "Locator" of Wireless 911 Calls

The York County Department of Fire & Life Safety has recently implemented a new technology system that allows the County to determine the address and location of someone making a 911 call from a wireless cell phone. This E911 Phase II deployment is the first of its kind in Virginia and is the first in the United States that utilizes EFLT (Enhanced Forward Link Trilateration) technology within the handset of the cellular phone to determine a caller's location in an emergency.

Explaining the new wireless emergency communications system at a press conference on April 16 in Yorktown, Terry Hall, York County's Communications Manager, said "Verizon Wireless is the first wireless carrier in Virginia to comply with Phase II of the Federal Communications Commission's



Terry Hall speaks to reporters at the press conference.

mandate. We have been pleased with Verizon Wireless' and TeleCommunications Systems' (TCS) (NASDAZ:TYSY) leadership in the first office application (FOA) and testing of Phase II technology in York County. They are now poised to extend this technology to other 911 centers throughout Hampton Roads who have been working

diligently in a regional approach to insure the upgrade of 911 equipment to handle this new technology.

See *911* on page 7

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# **Board Approved FY03 Budget**

York County's Budget for Fiscal Year 2003 (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003) and the proposed tax rates for Calendar Year 2002 were approved by the Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on April 3. In FY03, General Fund Expenditures are expected to total \$82.3 million. This is a 6.7% increase over the FY02 budget of \$77.2 million.

Tax rates for 2002 remain the same as the prior year at \$.86 per \$100 of assessed valuation for real estate and manufactured homes, \$4.00 per \$100 of assessed valuation for personal property and machinery/tools, and \$1.00 per \$100 of assessed valuation for boats and watercraft over five tons.

"Largest of the items in the County budget is the appropriation for education and educational services. This includes the County's libraries," stated James O. McReynolds, County Administrator. "\$37.7 million, 46% of the County's budget, is going towards those items. This is \$2.1 million above last year's appropriation."

Public Safety receives the second largest appropriation totaling \$15.9 million. Included in this category are fire and rescue services, emergency 911 communications, law

See *Budget* on page 7



A display of quilts by the Peninsula Piecemakers Quilt Guild was the first exhibit shown in the new Gallery at York Hall. For more on the Gallery, see page 4.

#### **Board of Supervisor Actions**

#### **February 5, 2002**

•Authorized the execution of a contract for the purchase of approximately 12 acres of property on Goodwin Neck Road. This land is adjacent to the County's Waste Management Center and utility maintenance facility. This property purchase will allow for much-needed expansion of these two County services.

#### February 19, 2002

•Established a Stormwater Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the Board of Supervisors on drainage problems and requirements and to provide public education and outreach programs to inform the citizens about stormwater pollution. The committee will consist of two citizens from each of the County's five election districts, two at-large members with one member educated or experienced in stormwater or environmental engineering activities, and one member experienced in public relations and citizen outreach educational programs.

#### March 5, 2002

•Approved the execution of contracts to replace the automated inspection request and plan review information system in the Department of Environmental & Development Services and to purchase web integration software. See the article on page 13.

#### March 19, 2002

•Approved a resolution to renovate Bruton and Tabb Fire Stations, to provide professional design services of sanitary sewer in Marlbank Farms, and to modify the Seaford Vacuum Station. The fire station renovations include interior demolition and interior finishes, electrical power distribution and lighting, plumbing and mechanical HVAC systems. Also included are vehicle bay exhaust systems and dividers in the bunk areas of both stations.

#### April 2, 2002

•Adopted a resolution that identifies York County's priorities for inclusion in the FY2003 Six-Year Transportation Development Plan. The Supervisors identified road projects they consider to be critical and that should be emphasized to the Commonwealth Transportation Board. These projects are: the Route 105 extension between Route 17 and Route 173; Route 17 widening between Wolftrap Road and Route 171; and Route 105 widening from Jefferson Avenue to Route 17.

#### April 16, 2002

•Approved the County's membership in the Virginia Energy Purchasing Governmental Association (VEPGA) and authorized execution of the joint powers agreement. Membership in this association allows York County and other local governments to benefit from joint-sponsored negotiations with Dominion Virginia Power for electric power service rates and terms for government buildings and facilities.

#### **Contact Your Board Member**

#### District 1

Walter C. Zaremba 106 Royal Grant Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185 (757) 890-3328 (voice mail) zaremba@yorkcounty.gov

#### District 2

Sheila S. Noll 133 Tradewinds Drive Yorktown, VA 23693 (757) 890-3329 (voice mail) noll@yorkcounty.gov

#### District 3

Donald E. Wiggins 301 Dawson Drive Seaford, VA 23696 (757) 890-3330 (voice mail) wiggins@yorkcounty.gov

#### District 4

James S. Burgett 106 Pageland Drive Yorktown, VA 23693 (757) 890-3331 (voice mail) burgett@yorkcounty.gov

#### District 5

Thomas G. Shepperd 134 Stone Lake Court Yorktown, VA 23693 (757) 890-3332 (voice mail) shepperd@yorkcounty.gov

### **Board Appointments**

- •Arts Commission
  Donna Lushbaugh
- •Beautification Committee

Bernice Little Lanna Rackley Leona Self

Selma Webb-MacCardell

• Employee Grievance Panel Jack Rhoads

•Historical Committee

Ted Crossland
Rebeccca Rolston
David Smith
Lois Winter
Lynn DiVito
Daniel Seabolt
Alexia Van Orden

•Parks & Recreation Advisory Board William Euker

The public is invited to attend Regular Meetings of the Board of Supervisors (held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in York Hall) and the Board's Work Sessions (typically held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m. in York Hall). Public comment is welcomed and encouraged at Regular Meetings.

#### Vol. 23, No. 2

Citizen News is published quarterly for the citizens of York County. One copy is mailed to each household in the County. Address comments to P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA, 23690 or call 890-3310. TDD for hearing impaired call 890-3300.

#### **Citizen News** York County, Virginia

#### Housing Rehabilitation Program Information

The County's Division of Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization has a number of programs available to assist eligible County residents. As funds are available, the Local Rehab/Water/Waste Water and Emergency Home Repair programs assist eligible low income families with emergency repair work to their homes (i.e. electrical, failed wells & septic tanks, structural repair to roofs, floors where hazardous to health, heating repairs and handicapped accessibility adaptations). The Utility Connection Fee Assistance Program assists low and moderate income homeowners residing in the County's Utility Extension Project Service areas with water and sewer connection fee costs.

Applications for USDA Rural
Development (formerly Farmers Home
Administration) programs are also
available through the York County
Housing Office. These USDA programs
provide low interest loans for the
purchase of a home or to have repair
work done on an existing house to income
eligible individuals. USDA also offers
grant funds to eligible Senior Citizens for
home repair grants.

For more information on these programs, call Beverly Williamson or Roland Dennis at 890-3885.

### Historical Committee Hosting Walking Tours

You are cordially invited to learn more about the history of our County. The York County Historical Committee is hosting free Sunday afternoon historical site tours. All tours begin at 2:00 p.m. and last approximately two hours. For more information, call 898-7768. The walking tours scheduled for the rest of the year are:

June 2	Chischiak Watch, Yorktown.
Aug. 4	Historic Ringfield Plantation.
(Meet at York	Hall in Yorktown)
Sept. 8	Cornwallis Cave.

#### Offices Introduce Internet Submittable Forms

The offices of the Commissioner of the Revenue and the Treasurer are now offering submittable forms via the Internet for purposes of providing tax information. Taxpayers are able to request vehicle registration for Personal Property taxation or request to register for purposes of obtaining a decal through e-mail. Once the form is received, the staff will verify the information with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and notify the taxpayer via email and the U.S. Post Office that the vehicle is ready for obtaining a decal and registration for Personal Property. However, a taxpayer cannot obtain a decal or register his or her vehicle over the Internet. He or she must mail the form, along with payment (if applicable) or visit the office. Taxpayers may also notify the Commissioner's office via email that their vehicles, boats or mobile homes have been disposed of or relocated. For more information, visit our website at www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue.

# Thinking about Flood Insurance?

Did you know that there is a 30-day waiting period after the purchase of flood insurance to cover damage? Hurricane season will start June 1 and now is the time to think about flood insurance even if you don't live in a flood zone.

The County web-site at www.yorkcounty.gov provides property information which can help you to determine if your property is in a flood or hurricane storm surge zone. You can also call Flood Zone Information at 890-3894, Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Department of Fire & Life Safety has a web-site at www.yorkcounty.gov/fls that contains more information on emergency preparedness and fire safety. You can also call the department at 890-3600 for more information.

#### Taxes due June 5

York County Personal Property and Real Estate taxes for the first half of 2002 are due on or before June 5. Taxes are considered late on June 6 and penalty and interest, which are calculated separately on each item, will be assessed. Tax bills were mailed to all York County citizens in April. If you did not receive your bill, please contact the Treasurer's Office for your tax amount. Each Personal Property tax bill shows the assessed tax, the tax relief (according to the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1997), and the total tax now due. Since York County prorates Personal Property taxes on motor vehicles, citizens are taxed for the actual number of months the vehicle was owned for the first half of 2002.

Taxes may be paid by mail, at the Treasurer's Office, or deposited in the Treasurer's drop box at the Finance Building, 120 Alexander Hamilton Boulevard in Yorktown. The Treasurer's Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For your convenience, the office will have extended hours on Saturday, June 1 of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and Monday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 5 of 8:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more tax payment information, please call the Treasurer's Office at 890-3420 or visit the web-site at www.yorkcounty.gov/treasurer.

#### 4-H Cloverbud Camp

History is not a thing of the past! Children ages 5-8 are invited to the Jamestown 4-H Center to explore life as a child in the eighteenth century. Scheduled for July 12-14, this camp will feature fun hands-on learning through colonial games, crafts, dress and music. Plus, stay in a cabin, go canoeing, enjoy a campfire, and get a taste of the summer camp experience. Campers will be closely supervised by trained and caring staff. For more information, call the Jamestown 4-H Center at 253-4931.

# **Energy Choice Begins in VA**

For the first time, Virginians will have the opportunity to choose who supplies their electricity or natural gas. Through changes in Virginia law, the Commonwealth on January 1 began the transition toward a competitive energy supply market. To help Virginians understand this new energy marketplace, the State Corporation Commission (SCC) launched "Virginia Energy Choice," a consumer education program to provide consumers the information they need to make informed decisions about energy services.

Energy choice will spread across the state, with northern and southwestern Virginia and the Eastern Shore already underway. The majority of consumers will have the opportunity to shop for energy suppliers by January 2003 and the remainder by 2004.

Under the previous system, one local utility had the exclusive right to supply your electricity or natural gas and deliver it to your home or business. In a competitive market, different energy suppliers will be able to compete to provide your energy needs, and you may have the opportunity to choose from among different offers. However, it is

important to remember that your local utility company will continue to deliver energy to your home or business. The SCC will continue to regulate this distribution, ensuring that the safe, reliable service you have counted upon in the past is there for you in the future.

Virginians will also see important changes in their energy bills, which will provide information to help consumers compare offers from energy suppliers. The new bills will include information regarding how much energy you use per month, how much you pay for the supply and delivery of energy to your home or business and what price to use to compare supplier offers.

Information is key as we move to this new marketplace and the folks at Virginia Energy Choice are there to answer your questions. For more information, a free consumer guide or a list of licensed energy suppliers, please call the toll-free information line at 1-877-YES-2004 or visit the web-site at www.yesvachoice.com. Please take advantage of these education resources to help you make the right decision about what's best for you and your family.

# The Gallery at York Hall Opens

The next time you find yourself in Yorktown, stop by York Hall, located at the corner of Main and Ballard Streets, and spend a few minutes appreciating the fine art on display at the newlyopened Gallery at York Hall.

The Gallery opened April 7 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that treated first-comers with a look at over 75 quilts made by the Peninsula Piecemakers Quilt Guild. "It's already been a big hit with visitors," says Sharon Owen, York County resident and volunteer organizer for the Gallery. "The month of April saw 927 visitors to the Gallery, and that's not even a full month since we opened on April 7th."

Mrs. Owen, a Chicago-native who moved to Yorktown sixteen years ago, volunteers her time to the Gallery out of a lifelong dedication to the arts and volunteerism as well as her love of Yorktown. "It's a lovely area and I enjoy coming to the Gallery and appreciating the beauty of Yorktown," she says.

The Gallery plans several exhibits for the rest of the year, but the current

See *Gallery* on page 16

# What's On TV? Check here for the WYCG-TV46 Lineup

The *Board of Supervisors' regular meetings* air live on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are rebroadcast beginning the next day with the following schedule: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 11:00 a.m. and p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

The *Board of Supervisors' work sessions* air live as scheduled (usually the second and fourth Tuesdays) at 6:00 p.m. The work sessions are rebroadcast beginning the next day with the following schedule: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and Monday at 7:00 p.m.

The *Planning Commission meetings* are televised live on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are rebroadcast beginning the next day with the following schedule: Thursday and Friday at 11:30 a.m. and p.m., and 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

York News airs at 11:00 a.m. and p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Additional broadcasts are Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. New programs are produced on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month and air through the day preceding the Board of Supervisors' regular meeting.

*Air Force News* airs Monday through Friday at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday through Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. and p.m.

 $\pmb{Army\ News}$ airs Monday through Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

County Courier airs Monday through Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

*Homebound Exercise* airs Monday through Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Navy/Marine Corps News airs Monday through Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

*Virginia Capital Views* airs Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m. and p.m.

For more information, call WYCG-TV46 at 890-3312.

# Voter Registrar Reports Change of Local Election Districts

The York County Board of Supervisors adopted a local redistricting plan on November 20, 2001 which has been approved by the U.S. Department of Justice. All five local election districts including 10 of 13 voting precincts were affected by redistricting. Only three precincts remain unchanged - Waller Mill, Yorktown and Seaford. Some of the changes include:

- Moving part of Queens Lake Precinct to Magruder Precinct;
- Moving Magruder Precinct from District 2 into District 1;
- Dividing Coventry Precinct by adding a new precinct, Kiln Creek, to District 2 and moving part of Coventry Precinct to Bethel Precinct in District 5;
- Moving all of Nelson Precinct from District 2 into Edgehill Precinct in District 3;
- Moving part of Harris Grove Precinct to Dare Precinct in District 4;
- Moving part of Tabb Precinct to Harwoods Mill Precinct in District 4;

- Moving part of Bethel Precinct to Tabb Precinct in District 5 and Coventry Precinct in District 2.
- In addition, two precincts Harris Grove and Tabb have new polling places.

York County General Registrar, Pam White, has completed the local redistricting changes to the voter registration records of all voters affected by redistricting. Voters whose district, precinct, or polling place was changed were mailed notices and a new voter card the last week in April. Voters are asked to check their new voter cards carefully to determine if they are now in a new precinct or have a new polling place. A reminder to those who have moved after registering to vote - you must be registered in the precinct in which you live to be eligible to vote. For information on locations available to register to vote or to request an application to register or change an address by mail, call the Registrar's Office at 890-3440 or visit the web-site at <a href="https://www.yorkcounty.gov/voting">www.yorkcounty.gov/voting</a>.

Precinct Name	<u>Voting Location</u>	$\underline{\text{Voting Address}}$	Co. District (	Congress	<u>Senate</u>	<u>I</u>
Queens Lake	Queens Lake Middle 12 School	4 West Queens Drive	1	1	<b>3</b>	
Yorktown	York High School 93	00 G. Washington Memorial Hwy	1	1	3	
Waller Mill	. Waller Mill Elementary 31 School	4 Waller Mill Road	1	1	3	
Magruder	Griffin-Yeates Center 14	90 Government Road	1	1	<b>3</b>	
Coventry	Coventry Elementary 20 School	0 Owen Davis Boulevard	2	1	1	
Kiln Creek	York County Library 10 Tabb Branch	0 Long Green Boulevard	2	1	1	
Seaford	Seaford Elementary 110 School	05 Seaford Road	3	1	3	
Harris Grove	General Services	01 Wolf Trap Road		1	3	
Edgehill	Yorktown Elementary 13 School	1 Siege Lane	3	1	<b>3</b>	
Harwoods Mill	Grafton Bethel Elemen 410 tary School	0 Lakeside Drive	4	1	3 1	
<b>Dare</b>	Dare Elementary School 30	0 Dare Road	4	1	3	
Tabb	Tabb High School 44	31 Big Bethel Road		1	1	

#### **911** from page 1

"Verizon Wireless and its E911 service provider, TCS, will be expanding this location information technology throughout Hampton Roads to the Cities of Hampton, Newport News, Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg and the Counties of Accomack (Eastern Shore) and James City. It is anticipated other wireless carriers providing services to Hampton Roads will be implementing Phase II services to the region in compliance with FCC mandates.

"911 has been designated as the universal emergency number for citizens throughout the United States. It is currently estimated that 40% of all 911 calls originate from cellular phones and that by the year 2005, the majority of 911 calls will be from cellular phones.

"Where E911 services are deployed, a 911 call from a cellular phone is automatically forwarded to the nearest public safety answering point (PSAP), or 911 call center, and these new technologies aid 911 operators in locating a caller in distress when they are unable to determine or communicate their location. Many counties in the United States have yet to deploy the important technology now offered to the citizens of York County."

TCS' founder and CEO, Maurice B. Tose, a York County native and graduate of York High School said, "TCS is elated to assist York County in its role as the leader in bringing this essential, lifesaving service to the citizens of Virginia."

Since the completion of its Phase I deployment in October 2001, York County's 911 Center has seen a 54% increase in its 911 volume. With Phase I deployment, a 10-digit phone number is displayed allowing the 911 operator to call back if there is a disconnection. In the final phase of wireless deployment (Phase II), global positioning system (GPS) satellites and local, land-based network wireless radio signals are utilized to find you wherever they are by relaying specific latitude and longitude location information called Automatic Location Identification (ALI) to the local 911 call center. If a cell phone is equipped with a GPS receiver, as will be required by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC), any citizen calling 911 on a cell phone will be easier to locate during an emergency.

The Department of Fire & Life Safety would like to provide the following reminders for citizens to use when dialing 911 from a cell phone:

- Remain calm and stay on the line until the dispatcher tells you it is okay to hang up.
- Be familiar with your surroundings and be prepared to provide the dispatcher with an address or location of the emergency.
- Know your cellular phone number and the name of your cellular provider.

For more information, call the Department of Fire & Life Safety at 890-3600.

# **County Office Files Thousands** of Tax Returns

The Commissioner of the Revenue, Ann Thomas, and her staff were very busy the past several weeks during state income tax filing season. Approximately 11,000 returns were processed through April 30. An additional 3,500 were expected by the May 1 deadline.

Each return received through the office was carefully reviewed to ensure completeness, accuracy and that the taxpayer utilized all applicable credits and/or subtractions. The review helped prevent the taxpayer from filing an inaccurate return and then having to file an amended return. As of April 30, the office mailed over 1,500 letters to taxpayers about errors detected on their returns.

The Commissioner's Office participates in keying refunds directly on-line to the Department of Taxation. This on-line connection enables York County taxpayers to receive their refunds within five business days rather than the six to eight weeks it takes for normal processing.

According to reports from the state's Department of Taxation, over 250,000 more refunds have already been issued this year in comparison to last year. This refund turnaround rate seems to be attributable to taxpayers taking advantage of the iFile and Telefile filing options. According to statistics provided by their department, 45.8% of the returns processed have been submitted electronically. This number is due to citizens becoming more familiar with the technology and beginning to recognize the advantages of filing using these two services.

For more information on the tax filing season, contact the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office at 890-3381 or visit the web-site at www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue/index.html.

#### **Budget** from page 1

enforcement and adult/juvenile corrections.

The demand for many County services have increased although the rate of residential growth has slowed to about 2% (with an expected growth rate of only 1.3% in the coming fiscal year). Examples of the increases in services over the past decade are: Calls for Fire & Rescue service increased 105%, emergency calls to the 911 Center are up 82%, and Law Enforcement calls have risen 79%. Also, the County has installed and maintains 168% more miles of sewer pipelines than it had in 1992, visits to the County's parks have increased 94% and library circulation is up 140%.

It is estimated that tax revenues from commercial enterprises will account for 46% of the County's revenues during FY02.

For more information on the County's FY03 Operating Budget, call the Public Information Office at 890-3300.

### Schools Enrollment & Residential Growth

by Timothy Cross, AICP, Principal Planner

Despite the national economic downturn, over 300 single-family detached homes, almost 150 townhouses and duplexes, and 120 apartment units were built in York County last year. As growth continues, citizens wonder what impact these new families will have on the County, and especially our schools. The answer, strange as it may seem, is that the County's school enrollment projections indicate relatively flat enrollment for a year or two and only moderate increases for the next several years thereafter.

Why are we projecting flat or slow enrollment growth when our housing stock is growing by over 500 units? Actually, these seemingly low projections do account for large increases in the number of students as a result of new construction. To understand why, one must consider not just the total number of students but how they are distributed among the grades. There are now 890 twelfth graders in the school system and 634 kindergartners. Next year's kindergarten class should be even smaller because of the declining birth rate, both in the County and statewide, between 1994 and 1997. Consequently, with a relatively large graduating class and a relatively small incoming class, the School Division will lose at least 256 students next year through the natural progression of students from one grade to the next. To put it another way, it will require an influx of 256 new students in grades 1 through 12 for total enrollment just to stay the same. Next year's projected increase from 11,942 to 11,960 students is small in the aggregate but actually reflects the addition of about 290 students - well over the 228-student average annual increase of the past five years.

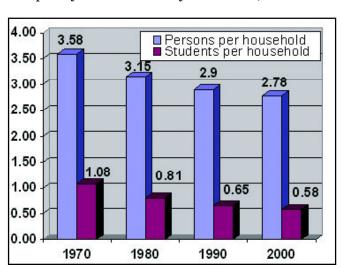
School enrollment does not necessarily mirror housing construction. In fact, school enrollment declined annually from 1980 through 1985 despite the construction of over 200 new homes per year. This is because housing construction is not the only variable that affects school enrollment. Birth rates also play a major role. For example, resident births in the County declined for four straight years, resulting in progressively smaller kindergarten classes from 1999 through 2001 (and projected in 2002). Such declines have a dampening effect on enrollment that continues as these age groups work their way through the school system. As the average household size falls (as it has for decades both locally and nationally), each new home in the County tends to bring with it fewer school children. Between 1996 and 2001 the annual number of new homes built in the County averaged 558, while the average annual increase in school enrollment was 194. This means that there was approximately one new student for every three new homes built in the past five years.

York County offers a high quality of life that makes it an attractive place to live, and growth will continue as long as there is vacant residential land to be developed. However, growth has, in fact, slowed down in recent years, for several

reasons. The Zoning Ordinance adopted in 1995 reduced the allowable development densities so that in most areas of the County, each acre of undeveloped residential land yields fewer lots than was previously the case. Moreover, most of the larger, more desirable sites have been or are being developed, and much of the vacant residentially zoned land that remains has environmental and other constraints (e.g., wetlands, high water table, steep slopes, poor access, lack of public utilities) that limit its developability and thus reduce the number of units per acre.

How will we accommodate enrollment growth? First we must make efficient use of the capacity that we already have. The total program capacity of the school system is 13,020

students, but once again, the aggregate statistics tell only part of the story. Although we have capacity in the system for almost 1,100 additional students, some schools within the system are



overcrowded today. One way to address overcrowding at individual schools is to better distribute enrollment by changing the attendance zone boundaries. This is a costeffective answer since it makes use of available capacity, but for the affected students and their parents it can also be inconvenient and unpopular. Portable classrooms are another cost-effective but unpopular solution to short-term crowding problems. Ultimately, the long-range solution to overcrowding is to build new schools or add on to existing schools, and the County currently has \$5 million allocated or programmed for building additional classrooms at Bethel Manor Elementary School and Queens Lake Middle School. There is also a future school site in Tabb that is available should the County need to build another school sometime in the future.

Projecting future school enrollment is more art than science, and nobody has a crystal ball. The County's track record for the past five years has been pretty good, but we want to do better, so we are continually reviewing and refining our projection model and methodology to improve the accuracy of our forecasts. The County works regularly with the School Division, monitoring development and enrollment trends and identifying capital needs in an ongoing effort to predict and plan for growth and maintain the quality of our schools.

# **Local Business Report**

by Stephen Cook, Business Development Representative, Office of Economic Development

York County joins Governor Mark Warner in acknowledging the contributions of York County businesses during Business Appreciation Week, May 13-19. The theme of this year's celebration is "Tradition & Innovation Powering Virginia." Business Appreciation Week is an opportunity to recognize the benefits brought to the people of York County by the companies that operate here. While much attention is given to incoming businesses, it is just as important to acknowledge the contributions made every day by existing businesses. York County's business base is diverse and features established companies like Henderson Construction (1957), and new technology oriented firms like RoMack, Inc., a world class supplier of fiber optics, fiber optic assemblies and fiber optic devices for industrial and research applications. These companies and many others comprise a vibrant York County business community that greatly contributes to the wonderful quality of life we have in the County. They are also responsible for helping to keep our real estate tax rate unchanged over the last eight years.

Wal-Mart has closed on a 27-acre site on East Rochambeau Drive for a 205,000 square foot Supercenter. The site is located in the Lightfoot Retail Corridor adjacent to Lowes Home Improvement Center. The land was sold to Wal-Mart by Kahn Development East of Richmond and Wal-Mart's preferred broker for the project was John Knibb of Divaris Real Estate, Inc. The site also includes two outparcels of 2.5 and 1.4 acres, adjacent to East Rochambeau Drive. The Supercenter could eventually employ about 500 and is projected to open in December 2002. Rick Moberg, Chairman of the Industrial Development Authority, commented that, "The attraction of Wal-Mart coupled with Lowes firmly anchors the Lightfoot Retail Corridor as a regional shopping destination. The Wal-

Mart project culminates almost ten years of planning and work by the County and the York County IDA



to create a new retail hub." Lowes and Wal-Mart together are projected to provide the County with approximately \$1.25 million in annual tax revenue.

Where is your business headed? Are you ready to take your business to the next level? Is your business in need of working capitol? Equipment? Lease-hold improvements? Did you know that there are state and federal loan programs to help your business? If not, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce will be offering a four-hour seminar to determine which loan program is right for your business. The Small Business Development Center, Virginia Small Business Financing Authority, and the Small Business Administration, as well as representatives from all of the Peninsula localities will discuss the different financing options that are available to the business community. The seminar will be held at the Ramada Inn in Newport News on May 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person for advanced registration and \$40 at the door. Please call Jennifer Morrone at 262-2000 for more information.

If you are interested in establishing or relocating a business in York County, please contact our office at 890-3317 or e-mail: *econdev@yorkcounty.gov*. Let us know how we can assist you or help improve York County's Business environment for everyone.

# 3 Neighborhoods Chosen to Receive Awards

Three York County neighborhoods won awards in the first "Neighborhoods of the Year" competition. The County's seventy-one subdivision homeowner associations competed in three categories: Safety, Beautification and Neighborhood Cooperation & Spirit. The awards were announced and plaques were presented to the winners at the March 19 Board of Supervisors meeting.

The award for Safety was presented to Williamsburg Commons for its installation of a new fence around its pool area, electronic security system, refurbished building signs making them more visible by emergency responders and more.

Queen's Lake received the award for Beautification. Resident's of Queens Lake volunteered to make landscape improvements to the clubhouse and pool areas and also encouraged residents to improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood at their individual residences.

The Neighborhood Cooperation & Spirit award was presented to York Point. Neighborhood meetings and social events are held often, and the association produces a newsletter that is sent electronically to the community's ninety-two homes. Association members have produced food baskets for the needy and for families experiencing illnesses or death. As a neighborhood, the residents collected several thousands of dollars for the September 11 relief fund.

Congratulations to these three neighborhoods and all the York County subdivisions that strive to improve their communities.

# Preparing for Hurricane Season

Hurricane season starts June 1. Even though York County's greatest threat is typically late August through the month of September, a hurricane could impact this area any time during the season. Therefore, it is important to check your family's disaster supplies now.

Do you live in low-lying areas? York County residents living in low-lying areas prone to flooding, those who live in mobile homes and those who live in other structures that are particularly susceptible to other significant effects of a hurricane should prepare an evacuation plan. York County residents who plan to leave the area should use Route 17 according to the Virginia Department of Highway's Evacuation Plan. Grafton School Complex located on Grafton Drive just off Route 17 in Grafton opens when County officials advise citizens to evacuate. However, emergency management officials recommend that you consider staying with family or friends outside the risk area as your first choice in an evacuation plan.

If you evacuate to a shelter, please be prepared to take bedding, snacks, extra clothing, activities for children, and baby and infant supplies with you. Remember to take important papers with you when you leave your home.

Do you receive home health care? If you live in a low-lying area prone to flooding or a mobile home and you receive home health care, then you need to consult with your physician concerning evacuation. Shelters do not provide nursing care, nor do shelters have beds or cots or other medical supplies. If you have a family member who receives home health care and lives in a high-risk area, please plan where you would take that person. Also plan how you would care for that person if it becomes necessary to move them from their home. Check with your home health care nurse or physician regarding emergency planning. The Department of Fire & Life Safety can also assist you.

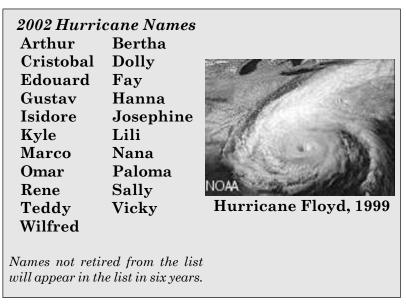
**Do you require special medical equipment?** People with a medical condition that requires electrically powered equipment need to plan too, regardless of where you live. Please check with the company from whom you lease or

purchased the equipment or with companies who lease portable generators to ensure that you have access to one should the need arise.

Grafton School complex does meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards and people requiring those design features can shelter at the school. However, they should plan to bring any necessary special supplies and equipment with them.

During hurricane season, please listen to local weather and monitor hurricane development. County officials will use Cable Channel 46 and other local TV and radio stations to inform residents of pending emergencies and recommendations for protective actions. Another source of weather information is a weather radio, which can be purchased in most electronic stores. Residents should have weather radios as well as regular radios that are both AC and DC powered.

For more information, please call the Department of Fire & Life Safety at 890-3600, Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Citizens can also visit the web-site at www.yorkcounty.gov/fls.



# Emergency Planning & Preparedness Expo - Saturday, June 1

Whether it is a summer thunderstorm or something much more severe such as a hurricane, property damage, injuries or other less disastrous results can be stressful for any family. By using the tools of family/personal emergency planning and preparedness, you can make a difference in reducing stress and helping your family cope in time of emergencies.

To help citizens in their personal efforts to be prepared and cope with major emergencies, York County, along with James City County and the City of Williamsburg, as well as the American Red Cross (Colonial Williamsburg and York/Poquoson Chapters), in cooperation with the Lowes Home Center (located at 801 East Rochambeau Drive in the Williamsburg area) will cosponsor a Severe Weather Preparedness Expo. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Lowes. Staff from various jurisdictions, Lowes and the American Red Cross will be on hand to answer any questions you may have concerning emergency preparedness.

# Summer Safety Tips from Fire & Life Safety

The summer will soon be upon us and the County's Department of Fire & Life Safety wants to remind you of a few safety tips to help make your summer a safe and happy one.

#### **Barbeque Grills**

- Grills are for outdoor use only and should be operated in a well-ventilated space; use only as specified by the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not use grills in an enclosed space, garage or building.
- Grills should be maintained and serviced regularly, according to the manufacturer's specifications.
  - Keep children away from grills in use.
- Do not install or use grills within 36 inches of combustible materials, unless otherwise recommended by the manufacturer.
  - Raise the lid before lighting the grill.
- Do not move the grill while in operation or if still hot.
- Turn off all control knobs and tank valve when grill is not in use.
- A grease cup should be attached to the grease hanger and emptied after each use. The grease cup should not be removed until the grill has cooled off.
- After the grill has cooled, it is important to check and clean the following parts: LP tank valve, regulator, hose and all connections, burner valve and burner.
- When exchanging LP tanks, make sure the valve fittings are the same.

The use of grills is prohibited in certain cases as outlined below:

Under the York County Fire
Prevention Code, "no charcoal,
flammable liquid, or liquefied petroleum
gas, brazier, hibachi, grill, stove or
similar device shall be ignited or used on
the balconies, patios or decks of
multifamily buildings, single family
attached building or similar structures
(i.e., apartment units, townhouses,
condominiums, etc.) when such balconies,
patios or decks are constructed of
combustible material. Where rental

units are involved, the management shall notify all tenants in writing of this requirement at the time the tenant initially occupies the premises and shall take reasonable steps to ensure compliance. Electric grills meeting the requirements of a nationally recognized testing laboratory for use on combustible materials may be used on balconies, patios or decks, provided the manufacturer's instructions are followed."

#### **Bicycles**

- Stop before riding out into traffic from driveways, sidewalks, alley or parking lots. Look left, right and left again. When there's no traffic, enter roadway.
  - Obey stop signs and traffic lights.
- Look back and yield to traffic coming from behind before turning left at intersections.
- Look in all directions when entering any intersection.
- The bike should be inspected and be in good working order.
- You should always ride in the same direction of travel as the vehicular traffic and follow safety rules.

Each year, thousands of children are seriously injured from bike falls and crashes that could have been prevented. Bicycles are vehicles, not toys. Your child might not think helmets are cool, or you might think they cost too much, but a helmet can save a child from serious head injury in a fall or collision. Children under the age of 14 are typically at the greatest risk for bike crashes. Remember, the Code of York County (Sec. 16-39) requires that "every person fourteen years of age or younger shall wear a protective helmet that meets the standards promulgated by the American National Standards Institute or the Snell Memorial Foundation whenever riding or being carried on a bicycle on any highway as defined in Section 46.2-100, Code of Virginia, sidewalk or public bicycle path."

#### **Drowning**

- Never leave a young child alone or with a sibling in the tub.
- Always have adult supervision for children by the pools, spas, the beach or lake. Be aware of backyard pools and spas in the neighborhood. Install a poolside phone.
- Enroll children over age 3 in swimming lessons.
- Never let older children swim in unsupervised areas like canals, ponds and quarries.
- Install a fence around your pool or spa.
- When boating, wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device on or near water.
  - Swim with a buddy, never alone.
- Don't jump or dive into bodies of water. Always wade in first to avoid hitting your head on a shallow bottom.
  - Don't push or jump on others.

Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional death. Most drownings and near-drownings happen when a child unintentionally falls into a pool or is left alone in the tub. Drownings happen in a matter of seconds. A child can drown in the time it takes to answer the phone. It only takes an inch of water for a child to drown.

#### Lawnmowers

- Let the engine cool down before refueling and don't overfill.
- If fuel is spilled, it should be cleaned up immediately with oil dry, kitty litter, sand, etc.
- If mowing on a hill, you should cross it horizontally.
- The mower should be stopped completely and shut off with the blade no longer moving before removing debris from under the mower deck.
- Young children should not be allowed to ride on mowers and they should be kept away from mowing operations at all times.
- Wear safety glasses, closed toe shoes and long pants while cutting grass.

# Hous County Demitivication Committee



# Holiday Collection Schedules

Curbside garbage collection will not be affected by the Memorial Day or July 4th holidays. All residents should place their containers at the front roadside by 7:00 a.m. on their regular collection days. Please keep in mind that collection often takes place earlier on holidays due to there being less traffic on the roadways.

Curbside collections for recycling only will take place as follows:

- Monday, May 27 collections will
  be collected on Saturday, May 25
  Thursday, July 4 collections will
- •Thursday, July 4 collections will be collected on Saturday, July 6.

The York County Waste
Management Center and VPPSA
Compost Facility will be open on both
holidays for the delivery of garbage,
recyclables, and yard debris, as well as
the purchase of compost and mulch.
However, the administrative offices will
be closed in honor of the holidays.

Please contact the Waste Management Center at 890-3780 for more information.

# Visit us on the 4th!

The Beautification Committee will once again have a booth set up at the Yorktown 4th of July Celebration. Please visit us and learn more about York County's Beautification Committee, Waste Management Program and Mosquito Control efforts. We will have free giveaways for you to take home. Look for us near the Arts & Crafts area.

The Waste Management Center (890-3780) and VPPSA Compost Facility (898-5012) are open Monday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. Call for service information.

### Yard Debris Collection Service Reminders

Since this is the season for yardwork, citizens are reminded that there are options available for yard debris collection and/or disposal. Each week, residents are allowed to put up to 6 clear bags or tied bundles of yard debris out for collection with their refuse toter on garbage collection day.

In addition to this service, for an additional charge of \$10 per load, residents can request a special yard debris collection for the following items:

- •brush •bagged leaves •bagged grass
- •limbs (must be less than 8 inches in diameter and less than 10 feet in length)

The County cannot pick up the following items:

- •stumps •construction or land-clearing debris
- •dirt, rocks or loose grass, leaves or straw
- •limbs larger than 8 inches in diameter or 10 feet in length
- •items placed under low power lines or low hanging tree limbs

Yard debris must be placed at the roadside by 7:00 a.m. on Monday because collection begins early. Please pile the debris within 4 feet of the roadside so that equipment can reach your material. Your debris will be picked up as soon as possible, however, it may be collected as late as Thursday or Friday, depending on the week's workload. If you would like to schedule a special yard debris collection, please contact the Waste Management Center at 890-3780 by 12:00 noon on Thursdays for pickup the following week.

# Thank You, York County Recyclers!

The York County Waste Management Center is proud to announce that York County recycled nearly 70% of waste generated during 2001. This number shows an increase for the second consecutive year. Since 1995, each locality in Virginia has been required by state law to recycle at least 25% of their waste generated--and many localities struggle to meet this goal. Be proud that there are many households and businesses here in the County that take the extra time and effort to recycle, enabling your locality to far surpass state mandates.

On Monday, April 22, the localities of Williamsburg, York County and James City County held an Earth Day Fair and Business Recycling Awards Ceremony. While York County does not mandate recycling by either households or businesses, we do require any business that generates at least 500 pounds of waste per year report their recycling efforts. Based on these reports, the following businesses were recognized:

- Large Business (based on number of employees) Dominion Virginia Power
- •Small Business H.J. Coxton's Auto Body and Service Center
- •Comprehensive Program BP Amoco, Yorktown
- Excellent Achievement *The Bargain Box*

Once again, congratulations on a job well done, and thank you to each home and business that contributed to York County's successful recycling program.

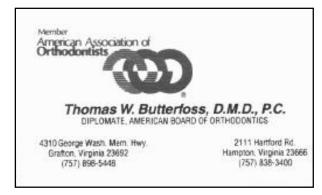
# County Upgrades Automated Phone System

Since 1999, the Department of Environmental & Development Services (EDS) has utilized an automated telephone system that provides contractors and homeowners a means by which they can schedule, cancel and check the status of building permit inspection requests "real time" with our Development Management System. This same system also provides a means for developers to obtain the review status of their site, development or plat plan. EDS is now in the process of upgrading and expanding the current telephone system to provide a much higher degree of support for the community.

In the next few months, EDS will be installing an upgraded system that will feature "voice recognition" to aid callers in navigating through the system rather than pressing the numeric pad on their touch-tone phones. However, touch-tone will still be available in the new system. An additional feature that will be added to the new telephone system is an "automated attendant." The automated

attendant will be a menu-based system that will route calls and disseminate critical information about department activities via the telephone.

In a continuous effort to improve our communication with the citizens and customers, the future holds some exciting new initiatives for the citizens and contracting community as well. Not only will EDS be implementing the new telephone system mentioned above, we will also provide a means by which citizens and contractors can schedule. cancel, and check the status of inspections via the Internet directly from their home or business computers. Developers will also be able to obtain review status with this same feature. Later in the upcoming fiscal year, EDS will also provide Web access to citizens and York businesses to communicate better with our department staff from their home or business computers and our staff will be able to better track and provide more timely responses to citizens' questions, requests and complaints.



### Advertisement Space Available in *Citizen News*

Citizen News has been providing citizens of York County with information about their local government since 1981. Today, 24,500 are printed with over 22,000 mailed directly to households in the County. Citizen News is published four times a year.

Advertising	Rates per Issue
Full Page	\$500.00
Half Page	\$250.00
1/4 Page	\$110.00
1/8 Page	\$70.00
1/16 Page	\$35.00
Call 890-3310	for ad dimensions,
eadlines and speci	

# **Protect Your Home During Your Vacation**

Vacation is a time for relaxation and enjoyment. It can also be the time for crime victimization if appropriate crime prevention measures are not followed. Sheriff Danny Diggs would like to remind all County residents to follow these crime prevention tips that are designed to allow you to enjoy your vacation without worrying about your home and possessions:

- ✓ Have good locks on all doors and windows and use them.
- ✓ Make sure your residence looks lived in, not empty.
- ✓ Leave shades and blinds in a normal position.
- ✓ Ask a neighbor to watch your residence while you are away.
- ✓ Leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.

- ✓ Test your smoke and burglar alarms.
- ✓ Stop all deliveries and arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail, newspapers and packages.
- ✓ Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, rake leaves, and maintain the yard to give the home a lived-in look.
- ✓ Have a neighbor place garbage cans at the curb on your normal pickup day(s) and return the cans after the garbage pickup is made.
- ✓ Use automatic timers on lights and radios or televisions during appropriate times.
- ✓ Turn the bell or ringer on your telephone down low. If a burglar is around, he won't be alerted to your absence by a ringing telephone.
- ✓ If you have call forwarding on your telephone, forward your calls to a trusted friend or relative.



- ✓ Don't announce your absence on answering machine messages; leave your normal message on the machine.
- ✓ Close and lock garage doors and windows. Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway. If you leave your car at home, park it as you normally would. Vehicles parked outside should be moved occasionally to appear that they are being used.
- ✓ Consider taking valuables to a bank safety deposit box.
- ✓ Ask the Sheriff's Office to place your home on their vacation check list.

If you have any questions on these or other crime prevention related topics, please call Deputy David Barke at 890-3639.

# 'Tis the Season for Mosquito Prevention Information

How does the County "Fight the Bite?" - In order to reduce the number of mosquitoes and the threat of mosquito borne diseases in our community, the County's Mosquito Control Division provides the following services:

- •Off-road County drainageway easement maintenance for source reduction.
- •Larval management to reduce immature mosquitoes in their water environment.
- •Ground and coordinated aerial spraying at nighttime for mature flying mosquitoes.

# YC Library Summer Reading Program YORK COUN

The school year is almost over, and the days are getting longer and warmer.



That can only mean one thing--summer is here!

To help our younger patrons have a fun and memorable summer, the Library is proud to offer its Summer Reading Program to children ages 2 to 12. The Summer Reading Program allows kids the opportunity to earn prizes for reading books, and gives children a full slate of fun activities and events to enjoy.

This year's Summer Reading Program theme is "Books and Pets: Our Friends for Life!" Each week, the Library will have special programs and story hours about themes ranging from sea voyages and dinosaurs to space exploration and time travel. There will be preschool Story Hours, grade school programs, and "Terrific Tuesdays" and other events with presentations by children's singer Kathleen Gibson, the Blue Sky Puppets, Steven's Marionettes, "The Really LOUD Animal Poet," Harry Wood, Music of the People and more. These programs are free and open to the public--no registration is required.

Between Monday, June 24 and Saturday, August 3, registered children can read on their own each week to earn prizes. Everyone registered will keep a log of the books they have read or listened to throughout the week and return the log to the Children's Desk at either the Yorktown or Tabb library to claim fun prizes. With each week's completed log, children can enter a weekly drawing for even bigger prizes! Children can also do a puzzle page each week for more fun prizes.

Children may register in person for this year's Summer Reading Program beginning Monday, June 17. For more information, call the Tabb Children's Desk at 890-5110. Additional information will be posted as it becomes available in the Library newsletter and on-line at www.yorkcounty.gov/children/summer\_reading\_index.htm.

- •Courtesy inspections to locate the sources of mosquito breeding and plan control options with the citizens.
- •Collection of dead crows, blue jays and birds of prey for West Nile Virus testing by calling 890-3790.

Mosquito Spraying Criteria - During mosquito season, many requests are received by citizens for spraying services to be conducted at their home. However, the treatment process is based on the number of requests from a given area along with mosquito surveillance data verifying that spraying is necessary. When it is scheduled, spraying will be done after 7:00 p.m. when environmental conditions are best for treatment. (Note: Spraying cannot be conducted during the day for the "Tiger Mosquito" as the heat causes the chemical to be ineffective.) If you would like to know when and where spraying is scheduled to take place, call the Mosquito Spraying Hotline at 890-3793. If you do not want your property sprayed, call 890-3790 and leave your name, address and telephone number.

Mosquitoes and Your Protection - It has been estimated that there are over 40,000 mosquitoes for each person living in the United States. As we know, York County has its share of these insects and, despite the County's best control efforts, there are still many that bother us during the mosquito season. For your defense, remember the three L's: wear clothes that are long, loose and light. Also, adults can use an insect repellant with 20-30% DEET, but children should only wear repellant with 10% DEET.

**Mosquito Prevention (Citizen Self Help) -** With recent reports in the media about West Nile Virus - which is transmitted by mosquito bites - people are increasingly concerned with how to protect themselves and their families.

See *Mosquito Prevention* on page 16

# You Can Learn to Use a Computer This Summer!

The York County School Division offers computer classes throughout the school year at the Lifelong Learning Center located at York High School. The profressional setting provides students with:

- •hands-on training
- •patient, knowledgeable instructors
- •handouts
- •small classes

Courses include:

- •Computer Basics
- •Windows Basics
- •Internet Basics

- •Database\*
- •PowerPoint\*
- $\bullet$ HTML
- •Beginning & Intermediate Spreadsheets\*
- •Beginning and Intermediate Word Processing\*
- •Clip Art

Cost of class depends upon class length. Call Gail Massey at 898-0329 for more information or visit the website at *www.yorkcountyschools.org* (click on the Technology Training tab).

\*Microsoft Office 97

#### VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

100 County Drive, P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA 23690-0532



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

# On-Site Landscape Clinics

"What could be causing my newly-planted rhododendron to turn brown?" "What can I plant in wet soil?" "What do I do with this low spot in my lawn?"

Do any of these questions plague you? If so, the York County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension will answer your landscape questions at a free On-Site Landscape Diagnostic Clinic. The clinics will help homeowners recognize specific problems in the landscape and be able to develop solutions for those problems. York County Master Gardeners will discuss landscape problems, insects, diseases, alternative plants, and watering, as well as answer questions from participants. Each clinic starts at 6:30 p.m. and lasts about 75 minutes. Preregister for a clinic at www.yorkcounty.gov/vce, or by calling the York Extension Office at 890-4940. Directions to the clinic site are available by e-mail or can be mailed to registered participants. Come and learn research-based solutions for your specific landscape problems.

#### Clinic Dates

Thursday, May 16, Berry's Landing (off Dare Road in the Grafton area)

Tuesday, May 21, Valentine Circle (in Lee's Village in the Grafton area)

# **Extension Program Available** for Group Presentations

The York County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension has developed an informational multimedia presentation to promote citizen awareness and stimulate wider utilization of the many services available to the public through Cooperative Extension.

Local civic organizations, homeowner associations, clubs, and other groups seeking a brief, informative program for upcoming meetings should contact the office at 890-4940 for more information or to schedule the presentation.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any of these activities, please contact the York Cooperative Extension Office at 890-4940 during business hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations ten days prior to the event.

# York County 4-H Programs

Montana 4-Hers to Visit York County in June - In the summer of 2001, 18 York County teens and 4 adults traveled to Montana to begin the first half of a two-year "4-H Interstate Exchange" with Yellowstone County, Montana 4-Hers. The York County participants will now have the opportunity to host their Montana counterparts from June 29 July 6. Planned activities during their visit include Yorktown 4th of July festivities, and trips to the Outer Banks, Busch Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg and Washington, D.C.

The York County 4-H office is currently seeking support for this beneficial program from local businesses, civic organizations and individuals; contributions of funds, in-kind supplies, or items for gift bags for our Montana guests (there will be approximately 21 youth and 4 adults in the group) are needed. All community contributors will be invited to welcoming and farewell events for the Montana delegation. and will also be recognized in the Clover Chronicle as well as through the local media. York County Interstate Exchange participants are also available to speak to groups and organizations about the program and its positive impacts. For more information, call 890-4940.

Teen Adventure Camps Available - Three exciting week-long Teen Adventure Camps are being offered by the Jamestown 4-H Center this summer for teens ages 13 and up. "Mr. Ed's Wild Ride" (July 22-26) features horseback riding, white water rafting, and rock climbing as well as overnight camping. Sign up for "Making Tracks" (July 29-August 2) and you'll be combing the state for fossils, touring marshlands by kayak, and learning astronomy. Or explore rocketry, flight, amusement parks (and G-forces) on "Galileo's Grand Adventure" named for the father of physics. Call the Extension Office at 890-4940 to have a brochure mailed to you, or call the Jamestown 4-H Center at 253-4931 for more information.

# **Heart Healthy Publications**

The following VCE publications have recently been updated:

#348-898 - Heart Healthy Eating... Cholesterol, Fat, Fiber & Sodium

#348-018 - Know Your Cholesterol Number

Call 898-4940 to get your copy today.

# Looking for a Great Gift? Buy a Brick Today!

The York County Library Foundation is sponsoring this special promotion. The mission of the Foundation is to help support long-term and continuous needs of library services. For only \$100 you can have a personalized brick installed at either the York or Tabb Library! Buy a brick and leave your mark on York County!

_STATE: ZIP:								
PHONE #:								
work								
You may have one, two or three lines engraved with up to 20 spaces per line. Please print clearly one letter per square. Allow one square for a space between words or for punctuation marks. Each line will be centered.								

- •Please install my brick at: \_\_\_\_Tabb Library\_\_\_Yorktown Library
- •I have enclosed an additional donation in the amount of \$

Your donation of \$100 will help with the long-term advancement of library services. The Foundation is a tax-exempt organization and donations are fully deductible. Make your check payable to: The York County Library Foundation and send it and the completed form to the address listed below.

York County Library Foundation 100 Long Green Boulevard, Yorktown, Virginia 23693

#### *Mosquito Preventio*n from page 10

There are ways to reduce the risk of mosquito bites that do not involve the use of insect repellants. Getting rid of mosquito breeding sites in your yard is the best way to control them. Here's how:

- •Eliminate cans, bottles, plastic containers and old tires from your yard.
- •Change the water in birdbaths and potted plant trays at least once a week.
- •Turn over wading pools, small boats, wheelbarrows, buckets, toys and wagons.
- •Shake out the tarps that cover grills, firewood, boats, swimming pools and yard equipment at least once a week.
- •Keep garbage cans and recycling containers closed.
- •Drain or treat unused swimming pools.

It is important for all to fight the bite as you can help your family and neighbors to avoid discomfort and the public health threat. If you have any questions or concerns, call Mosquito Control at 890-3790.

Mosquito Dunks Available - The County has available an EPA approved, environmentally safe mosquito killing biocontrol agent. These "mosquito dunks" are free of charge and provided by Summit Chemical of Baltimore, Maryland. The highly effective dunks are used by the County as larvicide. Dunks are harmless to humans, fish and other animals and can be purchased at garden centers and home improvement stores. Citizens may visit Mosquito Control, 145 Goodwin Neck Road, to obtain free samples of the dunks. However, there is a limit of two per resident.

For more information, call 890-3790 and request a copy of "Fight the Bite," a mosquito control pamphlet. Or you can visit the Mosquito Control web-site at <a href="https://www.yorkcounty.gov/eds/index.htm">www.yorkcounty.gov/eds/index.htm</a> to learn more about the County's mosquito control program. Mark your calendars for a County Courier television program on Mosquito Control that is scheduled to air in June on Cable Channel 46. Topics of discussion will include mosquito prevention and West Nile Virus.

#### Gallery from page 4

schedule is subject to change. "I have many contacts with artists in the area," Mrs. Owen adds. "But, I need potters, weavers, basket makers, any artisans wishing to display their wares." Some of the items on exhibit are also available for purchase. The artist gets a commission and the remainder of the money goes to the Celebrate Yorktown Committee (CYC), the volunteer group working in cooperation with the County to open and operate the Gallery at York Hall. The proceeds will be used by the CYC to help fund the free concert in Yorktown in August, the free lighted boat parade in December and other events the committee sponsors.

Mrs. Owen and her volunteers, of whom she has several who volunteered a total of 456 hours in April at the Gallery, have helped their share of tourists and visitors who have lost their way. Mrs. Owen smiles. "We've told visitors about the fine restaurants we have here in Yorktown, we've given out directions to the nearest gas station and we've answered questions about what's on the other side of the York and James Rivers."

If you are an artisan who would like to exhibit your art in the Gallery, a volunteer who would like to work at the desk, or a would-be visitor interested in a schedule of exhibits, call the Gallery at York Hall at 890-4490 or visit the web-site at <a href="https://www.yorkcounty.gov/cyc/index.html">www.yorkcounty.gov/cyc/index.html</a>.